

successor as Secretary of State, and Gov. Mifflin, the Republican Governor of Pennsylvania, advised that certain commissioners already appointed should proceed to the scene of disturbance and offer a full pardon for past offenses on condition of future obedience to* the laws; and they maintained that this would be more effectual if there was no threat of calling' out troops. Hamilton, however, the father of the obnoxious law, was for more stringent measures. He urged Washington to call for troops at once and send them, against the insurgents if they refused obedience. This plan prevailed, and the President made requisition in due form upon the Governors of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia for 15,000 militia. General Henry Lee, of Virginia, was in command; but Hamilton's request that he might accompany the expedition had been granted, and he was virtually its head. The troops crossed the Alleghanies late in October, but when they arrived in the disaffected district no> resistance of any kind was offered. Several persons were arrested, but were subsequently released by the civil authorities.

Jefferson at the outset had been bitterly opposed to the passage of the Excise Law; and besides his disapproval of the spirit in which its execution was now enforced, his sentiments toward the men at the head of the expedition were not such as to reconcile him to it. He could no longer keep> silent when he saw in the President's address a vigorous denunciation of the Democratic Corresponding Societies which in some States had been established in imitation of the French societies, of that name. The President held these in a large measure responsible for the outbreak. Jefferson wrote to Madison his first censure of the President: "The denunciation of the democratic societies is one of the extraordinary acts of boldness of which we have seen so many from the faction of Monocrats. It is wonderful indeed that the President should have permitted himself to be the organ of such an attack on the freedom of discussion, the freedom of writing, printing and publishing. I expected to have seen some justification of arming one part of the society, against another; * * * but the part of the speech which was